



NEWMARK K-8 SCHOOL
FRIDAY BACKPACK NEWS
Friday, November 1, 2024

Dear Newmark K-8 School Families,

A special thank you to all the parents who have generously contributed to the 2024 **Newmark Annual Fund**. Your support is invaluable to continuing the important programs at Newmark. **Our goal is 100% Parent Participation!** If you haven't had a chance to make a contribution and help us reach our goal, there is still time to make a tax-deductible gift!

Your child's 1st Marking Period (Q1) grades will be available to view on your PowerSchool Parent Portal on Wednesday, November 6, 2024 after 3:00 PM. Report cards will not be mailed home.

Stay connected! Keep checking your email every week for important Parent Alerts and Friday Backpack News. You can always access past issues archived on our [website](#).

School News & Information

November Lunch: [View](#) menu

2024 Annual Fund Appeal: We need your help to do what we do best - providing innovative education for our students. Every year our goal is **100% parent participation!** [Donate Today](#)

Community Connection PIN Program Nomination Deadline: Friday, November 1, 2024 - [Learn More](#)

K-8 After School Clubs - Session I: Ends November 6, 2024. Session II Registration is now open. *See below.*

No School - Teacher Convention: Thursday, November 7 & Friday, November 8, 2024

K-8 After School Clubs - Session II: Begins week of November 18, 2024 through

January 23, 2025. Registration is now open. See *below*.

School Portrait Photo Retake Day: Friday, November 22, 2024 - If you are not 100% happy with your child's School Portrait, see instructions on photographer's [website](#). Questions or need your child's access code? Contact Peter Collura Photography directly at 908-228-5674 or email hi@iamacamera.net

Student Social - Teen Afternoon: Friday, November 22, 2024 - For students in Mrs. Necci, Mr. Kerby, Mrs. Klier/Mr. S. O'Connor and Mr. Cebula/Ms. Kang's classes only. Activities begin after dismissal from 2:45-4:30 PM (unless noted). Parents need to provide transportation home promptly at 4:30 PM. [View](#) Permission Form

Early Dismissal: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 - For K-8 students dismissal at 12:45 PM

Thanksgiving Break - No School: Thursday, November 28 & Friday, November 29, 2024

Community Service & FBLA Fall 2024:

- **FBLA Wreath Sale:** Decorate your home with fresh, aromatic wreaths, centerpieces and festive winter decorations this holiday season starting at just \$20. [Wreath Orders](#) due Friday, November 8, 2024 and will be available the week after Thanksgiving. For payment, send cash/checks payable to Newmark High School - Attn: Mr. Pearson. Questions? Contact Mr. Pearson at kpearson@newmarkeducation.com
- **School Store Toy Drive Toy Drive:** Wednesday, November 6 - Friday, December 6, 2024 - Help us brighten the lives of children in our community in time for the holidays. Students may use their School Store points to purchase items at the School Store for donations. All donations will go to St. Joseph's Social Service Center in Elizabeth (Union County).

Spotlight: Newmark K-8 After School Clubs & Programs **Session II Begins Week of November 18, 2024**

Newmark K-8 School is excited to offer 2024-25 After School Clubs and Programs specifically designed to meet the age interests and needs of our students. Activities are offered for 4 sessions, with each session running 6 to 9 weeks in length, noting days off due to holiday breaks.

How To Register:

- **Register online** to pay by credit card (\$3.00 fee), check payable to Newmark School or cash (Checks/cash can be sent in to Main Office on September 5, 2024)
- Register early - space is limited!

Session II: Begins week of November 18, 2024 through January 23, 2025

- **If Club is Onsite:** Clubs or Programs will begin directly after school and end at 4:00 PM. Parents are responsible for picking up their child promptly at dismissal.
- **If Club is Virtual:** Clubs or Programs will start at 3:30 PM via Microsoft Teams invite and will end at 4:30 PM.

LEGO CHALLENGE | \$100 per session | TUESDAY | ONSITE

Session II: 11/19/24, 11/26/24, 12/3/24, 12/10/24, 12/17/24, 1/7/25, 1/14/25, 1/21/25 (No Club -12/24/24 & 12/31/24 Holiday Break)

Open to students in Ms. Fagan/Mrs. Bain, Ms. Halma, Mr. Osiadacz and Ms. Pantano's classes. Min 6 participants, max 12 participants

Description: In this club, students will build on creativity, problem-solving, critical thinking skills and cooperation in order to use Legos to build solutions to various engineering design challenges. Lego Challenge is designed to reinforce STEM concepts, encourage innovative thinking and cooperation/collaboration. **Lego Challenge runs Tuesday afternoons immediately following dismissal and will end at 4:00 PM. Parents are responsible for picking their child up promptly at 4:00 PM.**

Questions: Ms. Finelli – jfinelli@newmarkeducation.com

NEW! CHESS CLUB | \$100 per session | TUESDAYS | ONSITE

Session II: 11/19/24, 11/26/24, 12/3/24, 12/10/24, 12/17/24, 1/7/25, 1/14/25, 1/21/25 (No Club -12/24/24 & 12/31/24 Holiday Break)

Open to students in Ms. Halma, Mr. Osiadacz, Ms. Pantano, Mrs. Necci and Mr. Kerby's classes. Min 6 participants, max 12 participants

Description: The Chess Club is open to students of all skill levels interested in learning and playing chess. Our after-school sessions focus on teaching the basics of the game, including the pieces, how they move, and various strategies. Each meeting provides instructional time to broaden your knowledge, followed by opportunities to play against fellow club members. Join us to develop your chess skills, challenge your mind, and enjoy friendly competition! **The club runs Tuesday afternoons immediately following dismissal and will end at 4:00 PM. Parents are responsible for picking their child up promptly at 4:00 PM.**

Questions: Ms. Bosie – sbosie@newmarkeducation.com

ARTISANAL PROJECTS | \$100 per session | TUESDAYS | ONSITE

Session II: 11/19/24, 11/26/24, 12/3/24, 12/10/24, 12/17/24, 1/7/25, 1/14/25, 1/21/25 (No Club -12/24/24 & 12/31/24 Holiday Break)

Open to students in Ms. Fagan/Mrs. Bain, Ms. Halma, Mr. Osiadacz and Ms. Pantano's classes. Min 6 participants, max 12 participants

Description: Artisanal Projects is an opportunity for your child to learn a skill while creating something that uses the concept of functional art. Functional art is an art project that can be used for a specific purpose. This club offers projects that are long-term based and easy for all levels. Students will learn the skill of no-sew blankets and pillows, popsicle stick vessels, beading and jewelry, among other awesome creative projects. This would be the perfect club for a student who loves working with their hands, creating art and crafting. **The club runs Tuesday afternoons immediately following dismissal and will end at 4:00 PM. Parents are responsible for picking their child up promptly at 4:00 PM.**

Questions: Mr. Sykes – jsykes@newmarkeducation.com

GAMER'S GUILD CLUB | \$100 per session | WEDNESDAYS | ONSITE

Session II: 11/20/24, 12/4/24, 12/11/24, 12/18/24, 1/8/25, 1/15/25, 1/22/25 (No Club – 11/27/24 Thanksgiving Break; 12/25/24 & 1/1/25 Holiday Break)

Open to students in Mrs. Necci, Mr. Kerby, Mrs. Klier/Mr. S. O'Connor and Mr. Cebula/Ms. Kang's classes. Minimum – 6 participants

Description: Students will be introduced to a variety of new games where they will develop an understanding of rules within an engaging and enjoyable environment. Students will work collaboratively through fantastical worlds like Dungeons and Dragons, as well as learn the value of partaking in friendly competition during card games. **The Club runs Wednesday afternoons immediately following dismissal and will end at 4:00 PM. Parents are responsible for picking their child up promptly at 4:00 PM.**

Questions: Ms. Finelli – jfinelli@newmarkeducation.com

INTRAMURALS | \$100 per session | WEDNESDAYS | ONSITE

Session II: 11/20/24, 12/4/24, 12/11/24, 12/18/24, 1/8/25, 1/15/25, 1/22/25 (No Club – 11/27/24 Thanksgiving Break; 12/25/24 & 1/1/25 Holiday Break)

Open to all K-8 students. Minimum – 10 participants

Description: The Intramurals Club is designed to allow all students to participate in a variety of activities with their friends, while learning game fundamentals in a fun and lightly competitive environment. **Intramurals is offered on Wednesday afternoons immediately following dismissal and will end at 4:00 PM. Parents are responsible for picking their child up promptly at 4:00 PM. Snacks and drinks will be provided.**

Questions: Mr. C. O'Connor – coconnor@newmarkeducation.com

MINECRAFT EDUCATIONAL CLUB | \$100 per session | THURSDAYS | VIRTUAL

Session II: 11/21/24, 12/12/24, 12/19/24, 1/9/25, 1/16/25, 1/23/25

(No Club – 11/28/24 Thanksgiving Break; 12/5/24; 12/26/24 & 1/2/25 – Holiday Break)

Open to students in Ms. Fagan/Mrs. Bain, Ms. Halma, Mr. Osiadacz and Ms. Pantano's classes. Minimum – 6 participants; Maximum – 15 participants

Description: Microsoft Minecraft is an educational game-based learning platform that promotes collaboration and problem-solving in an immersive digital environment. It enhances creativity, self-direction, and other life skills. Virtually, Microsoft Minecraft

complements reading, writing, math, and even history learnings. Importantly, Minecraft also instills business principles, STEM knowledge and a global perspective. Before registering, please understand participating students must own the Minecraft and have it downloaded. **Minecraft is offered virtually on Thursday afternoons and will run from 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM.**

Questions: Mr. Osiadacz - POsiadacz@newmarkeducation.com

COMPUTER SCIENCE CLUB | \$100 per session | THURSDAYS | ONSITE

Session II: 11/21/24, 12/12/24, 12/19/24, 1/9/25, 1/16/25, 1/23/25

(No Club – 11/28/24 Thanksgiving Break; 12/5/24; 12/26/24 & 1/2/25 – Holiday Break)

Open to students in Mrs. Necci, Mr. Kerby, Mrs. Klier/Mr. S. O'Connor and Mr. Cebula/Ms. Kang's classes. Minimum – 6 participants; Maximum – 15 participants

Description: The Computer Science Club offers students the opportunity to delve into engaging topics like game design and web development, fostering creativity and critical thinking in a fun and supportive environment. Students will benefit from targeted instruction as they explore the exciting world of coding and technology. Participants can look forward to hands-on projects, collaborative learning experiences, and the chance to unleash their potential in the field of computer science. **Computer Science Club is offered on Thursday afternoons immediately following dismissal and will end at 4:00 PM. Parents are responsible for picking their child up promptly at 4:00 PM. Snacks and drinks will be provided.**

Questions: Mr. Rose – trose@newmarkeducation.com

[Register For Session II](#)

Newmark K-8 School 2024-25 School Year (SY)

Student Hours: 8:45 AM - 2:30 PM

Early Dismissal: 8:45 AM - 12:45 PM

1000 Cellar Avenue, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

908-753-0330

newmarkeducation.com

Contact Newmark Main Office

Absences, late arrival, early pick up, any transportation changes, etc.

absence@newmarkeducation.com

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